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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE

Letter dated 19 August 2002 from the Permanent Observer for Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Please find herewith enclosed* for information memorandums issued by the Palestinian National Authority on the Israeli daily aggressions against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories, for the period from Sunday 11 to Sunday 18 August 2002, all of which constitute violations of human rights and grave violations categorized according to international humanitarian law as war crimes and crimes against humanity, particularly the continued Israeli acts of deliberate killing, house demolitions, besieging Palestinian towns, villages and camps, imposing collective punishments, severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinians and a suffocating curfew which obviously endangers the lives of thousands of Palestinian civilians who are denied access to food, water, medicine and even to hospitals for getting urgent treatment.

In this respect, the Palestinian Ministry of Health issued two days ago an appeal to the world humanitarian organizations, affirming that as a result of these Israeli practices, the Palestinian society in the West Bank and Gaza is threatened with a definite humanitarian catastrophe, as many Palestinians are suffering from anaemia due to the lack of food, and widespread epidemics among Palestinians, mainly among children, due to the lack of medicine and appropriate vaccines.

I would be most grateful if you could have this note and its enclosure distributed to the members of the Commission on Human Rights, as an official document of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission.

(Signed) Nabil RAMLAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Observer

* Reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.

Annex

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People

From: 19.00hrs Sunday, August 11

To: 19.00hrs Monday, August 12

Israeli occupation troops continue their aggression and now they occupy virtually every Palestinian population center on the West Bank, and maintain a system of checkpoints, security cordons and curfews in the rest of the Palestinian territories. Israeli occupation forces have also cordoned off the Gaza Strip and conducted military attacks against Palestinian installations and houses inside its borders. Under the occupation, Palestinians are prohibited from leaving their homes to go to work or shop, and transport for relief provisions has been made difficult, if not impossible; up to half of the 3.3 million Palestinian population is verging on serious malnutrition.

[1] Palestinians was killed, [15] were injured, among them [3] children, [1] critically and [123] were arrested. [45] Trees were uprooted or burnt and [12] Dunams were bulldozed. [28] Houses, [20] vehicles, [8] economic establishments, [1] Clinic & [1] security post were destroyed or damaged. [1] New Israeli military post was erected in Palestinian areas and Palestinian areas were invaded [13], shelled [8] & bombarded by machinegun fire [19] times.

- *Ramallah & Al Birah:* The two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under siege. They also invaded AL Ranteese Village and arrested four Palestinians. Meanwhile, They also stormed in Ofer detention camp, which houses 1400 Palestinian detainees, searched tents, attacked the detainees and destroyed personal properties.

- *Nablus:* The occupation forces continued to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages. They also launched house-to-house searches and damaged houses and shops. The occupation forces invaded Beit Foreek village and arrested seven Palestinians.

- *Jenin:* The occupation forces invaded AL Yamoon & Ya'bad village, searched houses, arrested a number of Palestinians and executed the youth Ghazal Freehat (20).

- *Tolkarem:* The occupation forces invaded Rameen Village, searched & ransacked houses and arrested a number of Palestinians.

- *Hebron:* The occupation forces invaded AL Kassara area, blew up a shoe factory and arrested its owner.

- *Jericho:* The occupation forces prevented pregnant lady, Taghreed Abu Isleem (29), from reaching the hospital.

- *Khan Younis:* The occupation forces arrested a Palestinians at AL Matehen junction.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People
From: 19.00hrs Monday, August 12
To: 19.00hrs Tuesday, August 13

Israeli occupation troops continue their aggression and now they occupy virtually every Palestinian population center on the West Bank, and maintain a system of checkpoints, security cordons and curfews in the rest of the Palestinian territories. Israeli occupation forces have also cordoned off the Gaza Strip and conducted military attacks against Palestinian installations and houses inside its borders. Under the occupation, Palestinians are prohibited from leaving their homes to go to work or shop, and transport for relief provisions has been made difficult, if not impossible; up to half of the 3.3 million Palestinian population is verging on serious malnutrition.

[26] Palestinians were injured, among them [7] children, [3] critically and [19] were arrested. [1228] Trees were uprooted or burnt and [157] Dunams were bulldozed and [200] were confiscated. [29] Houses, [31] vehicles, [23] economic establishments, [2] schools and [7] green houses and animal farms were destroyed or damaged. [1] New Israeli military post was erected in Palestinian areas and Palestinian areas were invaded [23], shelled [18] & bombarded by machinegun fire [31] times.

- ***Jerusalem:*** The occupation forces shot and critically wounded one Palestinian young at a military checkpoint.

- ***Ramallah & Al Birah:*** The two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under Israeli military occupation and siege.

- ***Nablus:*** The occupation forces continued to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages, and the occupation troops invaded several houses in the village of Bet Dajan and arrested six Palestinians. . Four others were arrested in Balata refugee camp.

- ***Jenin:*** The occupation forces invaded Anza, Aneen & Jabaa villages, opened high caliber machinegun fire at residential areas wounding seven Palestinians and prevented ambulances from reaching the spot. A curfew was imposed in the village of Jabaa. The occupation soldiers also took over several houses and a school and humiliated villagers.

- ***Tolkarem:*** The occupation authorities started the topographic works in the lands of Wadi Al Sham, north of the city, where the security wall will be built. The occupation forces also started the works for a new settlement road in Al Shweka lands. More than [200] dunams will be confiscated for this purpose.

- ***Qalqilya:*** The occupation forces invaded the city and raided and searched several houses.

- ***Salfeet:*** The occupation forces arrested one Palestinian at Der Astia military checkpoint.

- ***Hebron:*** The occupation forces destroyed a family house in Al Daheria and caused severe damage to several nearby houses, definitely closed several shops near a Jewish settlement post and arrested a number of Palestinians in Bab Al Zaweya. Meanwhile, Jewish settlers ransacked and vandalized several shops near the settlement post.

- ***Bethlehem:*** The occupation forces destroyed a family house in Al Doha without allowing owners to take out their properties and caused severe damage to nearby houses.

- ***Northern Gaza:*** The occupation forces bombarded several times Palestinian areas near the Jewish settlements of Dugit and Eli Sainai causing severe damage. They also arrested one Palestinian worker in his way to his job in Bet Hanoun. Meanwhile, the occupation forces continued for the third consecutive day to bulldoze agricultural lands east of Bet Hanoun, where more than [80] dunams have been destroyed, including water wells and supplies network.

- ***Khan Younis:*** The occupation forces penetrated Palestinian areas in Khazaa, bulldozed more than [50] dunams of land and destroyed large number of olive and other fruitful trees.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People
From: 19.00hrs Tuesday, August 13 / To: 19.00hrs Wednesday, August 14

Israeli occupation troops continue their aggression and now they occupy virtually every Palestinian population center on the West Bank, and maintain a system of checkpoints, security cordons and curfews in the rest of the Palestinian territories. Israeli occupation forces have also cordoned off the Gaza Strip and conducted military attacks against Palestinian installations and houses inside its borders. Under the occupation, Palestinians are prohibited from leaving their homes to go to work or shop, and transport for relief provisions has been made difficult, if not impossible; up to half of the 3.3 million Palestinian population is verging on serious malnutrition.

[1] Palestinian was killed, [19] were injured, among them [5] children, [2] critically and [35] were arrested. [43] Trees were uprooted or burnt and [18] Dunams were bulldozed. [31] Houses, [23] vehicles, [19] economic establishments, [1] school, [1] institution, [2] security posts were destroyed or damaged. [3] New Israeli military posts were erected in Palestinian areas and Palestinian areas were invaded [16], shelled [14] & bombarded by machinegun fire [29] times.

- ***Ramallah & Al Birah:*** The two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under Israeli military occupation and siege and the occupation troops invaded the village of Dair Debwan, stormed houses and arrested one Palestinian. Meanwhile, Bait Eel Jewish settlers fenced off (1000) Dunams of land in the villages of Dora Al Qare & Yabrood.

- ***Nablus:*** The occupation forces continued to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages, searched, ransacked & damaged houses and arrested three Palestinians. They occupation troops bombarded houses injuring two citizens in Balata refugee camp.

- ***Jenin:*** The occupation forces invaded Toubass village, opened high caliber machinegun fire at residential areas, bulldozed one family house and caused damage to adjacent houses, killed Nasser Jarar (42), injured another Palestinian and prevented ambulances from reaching the spot. They also bombarded residential areas in the city, ransacked houses, invaded several villages and arrested three Palestinians.

- ***Tolkarem:*** The occupation forces re-imposed curfew on the city, attacked citizens and vehicles, erected roadblocks, forces Palestinians to take off their clothes at gun point and opened fire at Palestinians.

- ***Hebron:*** The occupation forces invaded Al Daheria, destroyed a family house in and caused severe damage to several nearby houses, took over a three-story-

house, kicked out its residents and transformed it into a military post and continued to demolish stores in the old city. Meanwhile, Sefer Jewish settlers attached and injured an elderly man in Bani Naim village.

- ***Bethlehem:*** The occupation forces vandalized and closed a family house in Al Khader village.

- ***Northern Gaza:*** The occupation forces bombarded Palestinian areas near the Jewish settlements of Dugit and Eli Sainai causing severe damage. They also bulldozed agricultural lands and trees east of Bet Hanoun.

- ***Mid Area:*** The occupation frigates bombarded the fishery market setting it to fire in Dier Al Balah. The occupation tanks penetrated into Al Birka area and destroyed a water main force.

- ***Khan Younis:*** The occupation forces invaded Khazaa area, searched houses and arrested six Palestinians. They also bombarded several neighborhoods in the city causing damage.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People
From: 19.00hrs Wednesday, August 14
To: 19.00hrs Thursday, August 15

Israeli occupation troops continue their aggression and now they occupy virtually every Palestinian population center on the West Bank, and maintain a system of checkpoints, security cordons and curfews in the rest of the Palestinian territories. Israeli occupation forces have also cordoned off the Gaza Strip and conducted military attacks against Palestinian installations and houses inside its borders. Under the occupation, Palestinians are prohibited from leaving their homes to go to work or shop, and transport for relief provisions has been made difficult, if not impossible; up to half of the 3.3 million Palestinian population is verging on serious malnutrition.

[2] Palestinians were killed, [21] were injured, among them [7] children, [3] critically and [18] were arrested. [350] Trees were uprooted or burnt and [73] Dunams were bulldozed. [24] Houses, [19] vehicles, [12] economic establishments, [1] school, [1] institution, [1] farm and [3] green houses were destroyed or damaged. [3] New Israeli military posts were erected in Palestinian areas and Palestinian areas were invaded [11], shelled [17] & bombarded by machinegun fire [43] times.

- *Jerusalem:* The Israeli occupation forces demolished a commercial store in Ras el Amood neighborhood.

- *Ramallah & Al Birah:* The two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under Israeli military occupation and siege and the occupation troops invaded BirZeit town, stormed and ransacked houses and arrested two Palestinians. Meanwhile, the Israeli troops bulldozed a Palestinian security position in Sateh Marhaba area where two tanks and three APC's were stationed.

- *Nablus:* The occupation forces continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages, searched, ransacked & damaged houses and arrested three Palestinians in the Tel village. Meanwhile, Jewish settlers backed by the occupation troops took over a house in the village of Luban al-Shark yeh, confiscated vehicles and imposed [$1200] fine upon the owners.

- *Jenin:* The occupation forces killed an 18-year-old teenager "Nidhal Dharagma" when they used him as a "human shield" to assassinate "Nasr Jarrar", 45, disabled. They also bulldozed more than 30 Dunams, uprooted hundreds of olive trees in Ateyba area to erect the separation fence. They also imposed a curfew on the town of Burqin, searched and ransacked houses and burnt a 2-story building completely. The occupation forces started to expand the

Jewish-only settlement of "Mabodotan B" in Ya'abd area , opened a bypass road on Palestinian agricultural lands and opened fire and prevented farmers to access their farms. They also collected a [180] INS traffic fines from Palestinian drivers.

- ***Qalqilya:*** The occupation forces imposed a strict curfew on the towns of "Habla" and "Azzoun", stormed and searched houses, attacked Palestinians and forced them to take off their clothes and arrested several citizens.

- ***Bethlehem:*** The occupation forces bulldozed 3 dunams in Al Arrouj village dug huge trenches (5m. width, 3m. depth) which caused severe damage to an adjacent house.

- ***Gaza:*** The occupation forces backed up by tanks penetrated more than [2 km.] in Wadi Gaza area, stormed and searched houses and arrested a Palestinian. Meanwhile, the occupation forces continued to loot the fertile soil near Netzarim Jewish-only settlement and transferred more than [30] truck-loads into the Green Line.

- ***Khan Younis:*** The occupation forces killed a 5-year-old boy with a bullet in the head from a tank positioned near "Gani Tal" Jewish -only settlement when they opened fire at residential houses. Several Palestinians were also injured, one critically. They also prevented ambulances from access and opened fire at them causing damage.

- ***Rafah:*** The occupation forces opened fire at the residential houses in Rafah Refugee Camp, [2] children were wounded. They also stormed and searched houses and arrested [3] Palestinians.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People
From: 19.00hrs Thursday, August 15
To: 19.00hrs Friday, August 16

Israeli occupation troops continue their aggression and now they occupy virtually every Palestinian population center on the West Bank, and maintain a system of checkpoints, security cordons and curfews in the rest of the Palestinian territories. Israeli occupation forces have also cordoned off the Gaza Strip and conducted military attacks against Palestinian installations and houses inside its borders. Under the occupation, Palestinians are prohibited from leaving their homes to go to work or shop, and transport for relief provisions has been made difficult, if not impossible; up to half of the 3.3 million Palestinian population is verging on serious malnutrition.

[2] Palestinians were killed, [23] were injured, among them [5] children, [1] critically and [30] were arrested. [23] Houses, [19] vehicles, [9] economic establishments, [2] institutions and [1] farm were destroyed or damaged. [1] New settlement road was built and [1] new Israeli military post was erected in Palestinian areas and Palestinian areas were invaded [4], shelled [14] & bombarded by machinegun fire [32] times.

- ***Ramallah & Al Birah:*** The two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under Israeli military occupation and siege.

- ***Nablus:*** A 9-year-old boy died when the occupation forces at Der Sharaf military checkpoint prevented the ambulance transporting him from reaching the hospital. The occupation forces continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages, search, ransack & damage houses. They also invaded the village of Bet Eba, searched and ransacked houses and arrested a number of Palestinians. Seven Palestinians were injured.

- ***Jenin:*** The occupation forces destroyed a family house in Kfar Raee and caused severe damage to several nearby houses and electricity and water supply networks and the occupation soldiers arrested a number of Palestinians and opened fire on several of the city's neighborhoods.

- ***Tolkarem:*** The occupation forces invaded the village of Anabta, raided and searched several houses and destroyed a family house without allowing owners to take out their properties.

- ***Salfeet:*** The occupation forces invaded the city, raided a family house and arrested one Palestinian.

- ***Hebron:*** The occupation forces invaded a family house, ransacked properties and arrested one Palestinian.

- ***Bethlehem:*** The occupation troops arrested a number of Palestinians.

- ***Gaza:*** A 75-year-old woman died from wounds sustained when the occupation forces launched a missile attack on a residential neighborhood in the city on July 23d.

- ***Khan Younis:*** The occupation forces bombarded Al Rabwat Al Gharbia wounding a number of Palestinians and causing severe damage.

- ***Rafah:*** The occupation forces opened fire at residential houses in Tal Zougrob wounding four young Palestinians.

- ***Miscellaneous:*** Israeli High court allowed the occupation army to confiscate Palestinian land near the Jewish settlement of Netsareem in order to build a new road for the settlement.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People
From: 19.00hrs Saturday, August 17
To: 19.00hrs Sunday, August 18

Israeli occupation troops continue their aggression and now they occupy virtually every Palestinian population center on the West Bank, and maintain a system of checkpoints, security cordons and curfews in the rest of the Palestinian territories. Israeli occupation forces have also cordoned off the Gaza Strip and conducted military attacks against Palestinian installations and houses inside its borders. Under the occupation, Palestinians are prohibited from leaving their homes to go to work or shop, and transport for relief provisions has been made difficult, if not impossible; up to half of the 3.3 million Palestinian population is verging on serious malnutrition.

[1] Palestinian was killed, [22] were injured, among them [4] children, [4] critically and [187] were arrested. [98] Trees and [27] dunams of land were bulldozed. [30] Houses, [29] vehicles, [11] economic establishments, [1] institution, [1] mosque, [1] hospital and [2] green houses were destroyed or damaged. [170] Dunams of land were confiscated for the expansion of settlements. [2] New military points were erected. Palestinian areas were invaded [24], shelled [14] & bombarded by machinegun fire [30] times.

- Jerusalem: The occupation forces arrested three Palestinians and bulldozed vast areas of agricultural land in Al Esaweia.

- ***Ramallah & Al Birah:*** The two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under Israeli military occupation and siege. The occupation soldiers also raided, searched and ransacked several houses in the city, took over several Palestinian vehicles and used them to chase Palestinians in AL Kassarat and AL Ram areas and arrested [7] Palestinians. Six others were arrested in the village of Kharabtha and the occupation authorities delivered land confiscation orders to tens of Palestinians.

- ***Nablus:*** The occupation forces continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages, search, ransack & damage houses They also shot and killed a 40-year-old Palestinian in the village of Rojeeb, and demolished two family houses in the Village of Laban and kidnapped one Palestinian.

- ***Jenin:*** The occupation forces invaded the refugee camp, stationed around the UNRWA school and opened fire at Palestinian houses wounding a number of them.

- ***Tolkarem:*** The occupation forces stormed Shweka neighborhood, erected several checkpoints, opened fire and gas bombs at Palestinian houses and bombarded the northern and western neighborhoods wounding a number of Palestinians.

- ***Qalqilya:*** The occupation forces arrested one Palestinian at Ornet military checkpoint.

- ***Hebron:*** The occupation forces invaded several of the city's neighborhoods, raided, searched and ransacked houses and arrested [150] Palestinians.

- ***Bethlehem:*** The occupation troops invaded and took over a family house and turned it into a military post.

- ***Gaza:*** The occupation forces opened fire at residential houses in Al Sheikh Ejleen causing severe damage.

- ***Mid Area:*** The occupation forces invaded several houses near the Jewish settlement of Kfar Darom and arrested a 28-year-old Palestinian.

- ***Khan Younis:*** The occupation forces bombarded Al Namsawi and Al Amal neighborhoods critically wounding four Palestinians, among them a 9-year-old girl and causing severe damage. The occupation forces also bulldozed vast area of agricultural land east of the city.

- ***Rafah:*** The occupation forces invaded Mosbeh area, searched and ransacked houses, attacked Palestinians and arrested eight members of the same family.